

# The Hartford News

February 27 – March 4, 2020



## NEWS BRIEFS

### **Breaking Barriers Discussion TONIGHT**

In honor of Black History Month, Hartford Public Library (HPL) a conversation on African American leaders featured in Breaking Barriers, Aetna's publication celebrating 35 years of African American leadership in America. The event will be held tonight, February 27, from 5-7 pm in the Function Room of Hartford City Hall, 550 Main Street. Breaking Barriers features HPL Corporator Charmaine Craig, also known as Hartford's Tree Lady, and Patricia Kelly, founder and CEO of Ebony Horsewomen. The discussion will be moderated by Floyd W. Green III, HPL Board Member and Vice President & Head of Community Activation & Local Marketing, Aetna. Formal introduction by Jo Winch, former Hartford City Councilwoman. Courtesy of Aetna, copies of the book will be available to the first 50 guests. To RSVP, please email [mcallahan@hplct.org](mailto:mcallahan@hplct.org). For more information, please visit <http://breakingbarriers.aetna.com/>.

### **Discussion on Election Reform Tonight**

Are you frustrated by our current voting system? Hartford Public Library, 500 Main Street, Downtown Hartford, will host a discussion on election and voting reform tonight, February 27, from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. The discussion, entitled "How Should We Vote?" will be moderated by Bilal Sekou from the University of Hartford's Political Science Department. Panelists include Oz Griebel chair of the Serve America Movement Connecticut (SAM-CT) Charles Venator from the University of Connecticut's political science department and other local leaders. The discussion is free and open to the public.

### **"Health Cafe" Tonight at Library Cafe**

The Connecticut Convergence Institute and the Hartford Region YWCA will present their next "Health Cafe" on Thursday, February 27, from 6 - 8 pm in the Kitchen Cafe at Hartford Public Library, 500 Main Street, Hartford. Glenn Konopaske, MD, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at UCONN Health Center will discuss "Beyond The Winter Blues: Seasonal Affective Disorder." There will be a free dinner and give-aways for all attendees. The event is free but space is limited. To RSVP, please go to <https://health.uconn.edu/connecticut-convergence-institute>.

### **HEZBA Luncheon February 28**

The Hartford Enterprise Zone Busi-

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### **Prince Tech 2020: 20 Games, 20 Wins**

Prince Tech's Ken Fuentes goes up for two of the 19 points he scored in his team's 91-45 win over Grasso Tech Friday night. The win completed Prince Tech's first undefeated season in school history. Kazell Stewart was the team's high scorer with 30, followed by Fuentes and then Hector Rodriguez with 15. Prince Tech will now go into the CIAC State Tournament. Weaver High School and Hartford Public High School have also qualified for the State Tournament, which will start next month. (Hart photo)

### **6th District Town Committee Election to be Held this Tuesday, March 3**

Voters in Hartford 6th Legislative District will go to the polls this Tuesday, March 3, to elect 14 members to the district's Democratic Town Committee. The primary role of the Democratic town committees is to select candidates for municipal and state elections.

The 6th District includes most of Hartford's South End up to the Wethersfield town line. Polls will be open on Tuesday from 6 am - 8 pm.

Voters can vote for up to 14 candidates

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### **Hartford...Once Upon a Time**



What did Hartford kids do on a summer day in 1950 when there was "nothing to do"? They used their imaginations to play "Cowboys & Indians"; make a scooter by attaching old roller skates to pieces of plywood; open a "doll hospital"; attach baseball cards to spokes with clothespins so their bikes would sound like motorcycles; and sell Kool-aid for 3 cents a glass, donating the proceeds to Camp Courant or the Times Farm Camp, to mention a few. They could also put together an impromptu backyard neighborhood parade: A drum major's hat made from construction paper, noisemakers and whistles, tin horns from the dime store, and they were ready to step off, just like this group of Parkville children did. These two six-family, four-room railroad flats stood at the corner of Sisson Avenue and Cherry Street and were demolished about 40 years ago.

## DON'T SHOOT!

*Protesters again throng the LOB to lobby against mandated vaccines*

**BY ANNE GOSHDIGIAN  
& MARIE SULTANA ROBINSON**

As soon as the Legislative Office Building opened on Monday, February 24th, the entrance and security checkpoint was clogged with strollers pushed by parents, their small children ranging from newborns to preschoolers in tow. As legislators were arriving for the vote on House Bill 5044, that would remove the religious exemption from the requirement that Connecticut schoolchildren receive vaccines that have been proven to combat preventable diseases, they were met by either boos and hisses or cheers from the crowd, depending on their anticipated vote for or against the bill. (Following a few weeks of rallies on the Capitol lawn and a marathon public hearing, the bill was passed). But before that, the LOB atrium was filled with chanting from the hundreds of assembled protesters: "No bill!" and "Dump the bill!".



Marie Sultana Robinson photo

Shouting isn't allowed in that building, so several women did filter through the crowd warning their allies that "If we're loud, they'll throw us out", which seemed to spur on a woman in pink who shouted "We need to get loud! We need to get ugly! We need to have them hear that we don't want this bill!" After an initial struggle, a Capitol police officer moved quickly to verbally subdue her and then escorted her to a side room. Several LOB staffers commented that they'd never seen so many protesters show up for a bill vote. Chanting also continued in the building's cafeteria during lunchtime.

Many protesters felt that the data for vaccines was inaccurate. "This is not your grandmother's vaccine. Too much else is added in and no one knows the effect." Others spoke about how these inoculations could alter the DNA of their children, as well as future generations. Some older people in the crowd feared that passage of the bill would open up the possibility for future mandates of vaccines, not just for children but that adults would be subject to that law in order to keep jobs and return to college. But many just felt that it violated their religious freedom. Interestingly, none of the protesters who were queried about their religious affiliation would respond or elab-

Continued on page 2

## The Breaking Point: Why We Can't Have Nice Things

COMMENTARY BY DONNA SWARR

Remember that brand new fence around the Colt Park Youth Soccer Field?

Well, it was less than two weeks old and someone drove into it, and now a third of it is no longer there. What is there is a lot of debris from the front of a car, two posts that are mauld, and a third of the remaining fence rails are missing. Were the rails stolen or did someone collect



them to keep them safe? At this point, I don't know. When did this happen? Over the weekend. The area security cameras will be reviewed by HPD. Am I mad? Oh, yeah.

In fact, I am furious.

The City has so little money to make improvements in our parks. Most of the projects that happen are due to a safety issue. This fence was installed to

protect kids while they're playing soccer. Some people think it's okay to drive and park their cars on a field while the kids are playing a game. It may also look like a great place to park your car and not have to pay for parking for an event at Dillon Stadium, with no thought that they are ruining the field by leaving gouges from their tires and dripping contaminants on the grass where the kids play.

Another issue is that when damage is done, somewhere along the City's process chain the attempt to receive restitution seems to be broken or not deemed to be worth the effort. But the constant graffiti abatement is costly; the destroyed fence or building is left to erode into blight. It is so frustrating that there are times when I wonder--how much longer can I advocate for the park? When do I just give up?

## Beam me up!

COMMENTARY BY DENISE T. BEST

Christ Almighty I wasn't dreaming. And Lord, I pray that I'm not using your name in vain, but if you can't help, I'm chanting, and if need be, I'm off to see the wizard... Somebody! Or, maybe I can be beamed up and out of this alternate universe. The life forms here look like intelligent beings, but the humans, are an endangered species and the inmates, otherwise known as repugnant, are running the asylum. One of them actually ran for president! He's rude, crude and socially unacceptable, so of course he lost. Wait, what? Oh, yeah, no, he actually won! I gotta get outta here. These life forms are brain dead.

In 2008, when our distinguished First Lady, Michelle Obama, made the comment, "For the first time in my adult lifetime, I am proud of my country.", the press was quick to admonish her. When she "bared her arms", oh the moral outrage! You would have thought she had colluded with a foreign president to win an election. Where are those pundits now that a bully is running the country? It's a nightmare! As things keep going from bad to worse, I realize that I'm not dreaming. This is the new normal.

The emperor is naked, has left the schoolyard, and assaults his victims via tweets from the White House.



site witnesses and documents, and he has threatened, "Vote against the president and your head will be on a pike". Trailing 15,000+ lies like toilet paper on his shoe, he's the wooden boy who cried wolf! He demonized a prayer breakfast! His incessant tweets degrade and insult women, the deceased, immigrants, the physically-challenged... it's unconscionable, incomprehensible that intimidation has become a daily, bitter pill that our children have to swallow right along with

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## THE HARTFORD NEWS

Publishers ..... Jon Harden  
..... Lynne Lumsden

Managing Editor ..... Andy Hart  
Advertising Manager ..... Josephine Finocchiaro  
Copy Editor/Staff Writer ..... Anne Goshdigan  
Spanish Editor ..... Wilfredo Ayala  
Contributing Writers ..... Mike McGarry  
..... David Samuels  
..... Donna Swarr  
..... Tom Swarr

Published by Southside Media  
563 Franklin Ave., Hartford, CT 06114  
(860) 296-6128 FAX 866-875-3785 • E-Mail:  
[hartfordnews@aol.com](mailto:hartfordnews@aol.com)

*The Hartford News is published weekly on Thursday by Gamut Publishing, Inc. The publisher does not assume responsibility for errors, omissions, and changes in advertising or editorial material. Advertising rates are available upon request. Deadlines: Advertisements, news releases and articles must be submitted by 5 pm on Monday for publication on Thursday. Rights and Permissions: The entire contents of the Hartford News are copyright 2006 by Gamut Publishing, and no portion may be reproduced in whole or in part by any means without specific written permission of the publisher. All rights reserved. Letters and Submissions: Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. Writers must sign their names and must give an address and a telephone number for verification, although neither address or telephone number will be published. Unsolicited submissions are welcome but must be accompanied with an SASE if return is desired.*



## Politically Speaking

A Fresh Look at Issues  
Facing our Region & State

BY MIKE MCGARRY

## Matt Ritter at The Woodland

State Representative Matt Ritter from the 1st House District in Hartford (mainly Asylum Hill, a bit of Upper Albany and the West End) visited The Woodland Condominium Monday night. Ritter is the State Legislature's Majority Leader and is said to be in line for Speaker of the House after the 2020 elections. His father, Tom Ritter, once held that position.

The Ritter family has a long association with The Woodland (up until recently called The Woodland House). Matt's grandfather, George Ritter, also a State Representative from the area, lived in the building as did Matt when he was in law school.

Representative Ritter's calm demeanor and his attention to the needs of the voters in his district will keep him in the legislature as long as he wants to serve. Once asked if he was interested in running for the Congressional seat held by John Larson, or any of the constitutional state offices, he demurred, saying the only office he was interested in is his father's seat. Tom Ritter made history working with governors from both parties. Matt claims friends on both sides of the aisle, no matter how hot the debates or issues get. Will he ever

get more ambitious? Well, he is still a relatively young man.

The issues discussed Monday night ranged from tolls (too much already!) to very local issues, like traffic lights that cause back-ups and confusion. Most Hartford problems are not his direct responsibility, but you can guess that a call from him might bring attention to the obvious.

Items that directly affected The Woodland were addressed and the president of the condominium's board thanked him for moving the needle to the benefit of the owners and renters who call this large building home. Again, a simple phone call suggesting a fresh look does help, if you know who to call. Attendees at Monday's get-together got real insight into the working of the legislature. Ritter said the advent of social media gave many in his caucus pause on important issues because a flurry of emails, tweets, facebook posts, etc. can affect just about any subject. Legislators in swing districts get shy right away if social media posts come in against the plans of leadership or the governor. Tolls again. Remember, Ritter's first election, a

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## In My Opinion

### Bernie Sanders is a Democratic Sheepdog

BY DAVID SAMUELS

*It's disappointing but not surprising to see 'woke' tokens of color campaigning for #BernieSanders2020. They use radical sounding language to stir up our people, but then redirect that energy back into the two-party imperialist machine. Don't be fooled by these charlatans.*

*Tweet by ANTICONQUISTA*

Bernie Sanders and the other Democratic presidential candidates spent the entire February 19 Nevada primary debate calling Mike Bloomberg a stopping and frisking, racist, sexist, corrupt, billionaire scumbag. They will fully support Bloomberg if he wins the nomination.

Every candidate on that debate stage props up the police state. Stop and frisk is a political football that they're tossing around. Bloomberg is not alone. Joe Biden wrote Bill Clinton's racist 1994 crime bill. None of the candidates, including Saint Bernie, have done anything on a policy level to address police repression of Black people. Green Party presidential candidate Howie Hawkins is the only candidate who supports Black community control of the

police.

Tune in March 26 to our Community Party Radio on So-Metro Radio Justice for AJ podcast. Guest contributor Kimberly Phillips' son AJ was murdered by San Jose police officers in 2015. March 26 is his birthday. Howie will discuss his 8,000 word policy paper on Black community control of the police. 8:00 pm Eastern Time 7:00 pm Central 5:00 pm Pacific on sometroradio.com.

How fitting that after the Democrats spent four years screaming about getting rid of Trump, the party's 2020 nominee may be Bloomberg, a racist, misogynist, corrupt New York billionaire. Sanders did nothing after Hillary Clinton stole the 2016 primary from him. In fact, he endorsed this racist, neoliberal warmonger. Sanders has promised to support the 2020 Democratic nominee, despite the fact that the corporate wing of the party is again doing everything they can to sabotage his candidacy.

Hillary has been smearing Sanders for weeks. She attacked Sanders' tenure as a senator, saying, "nobody likes him, nobody

**Continued on page 6**

## Town Committee Election Tuesday

Continued from page 1

from the three slates that are on the ballot (see below). The top 14 vote-getters will be named to the 6th District Democratic Town Committee.

### CANDIDATES

#### Row B

Kelly Bilodeau  
Jason Diaz  
Eli Joseph  
Kate Kowalyshyn  
Patricia Miles  
Jackie Nadal  
Lille Parker  
Agnes Perez-Flores  
Alex Rodriguez  
Juan Rodriguez  
Pedro Torres  
Tyrone Walker  
Carl Williams  
Hyacinth Yennie

#### Row C

Milly Arcinegas  
Glen Geathers  
Victor Gomez  
Thomas Grodecki  
Gina Herboldt  
Bradon Mejias-Wasy  
Estela Morales Segarra  
Marilyn Nazario  
Erii Orsaris  
Ivan Reyes  
Maly Rosado  
Carmen Sierra  
Delmarys Serrano  
Barbara Sturges

#### Row D

Edward Casares  
Betzaida Colon  
Luis Delgado  
Antonio Garcia  
Geomary Molina  
Eddie Perez, Jr.  
Epifanio Perez  
Jocelyn Perez  
Yaira Rivera  
Hector Robles  
Hilda Rodriguez  
Victor Rodriguez  
Tracey Sheedy  
Freddie Valentin

Polling places are:

Voting District 15: Batchelder School, 757 New Britain Avenue  
Voting District 16: Kennelly School, 180 White Street  
Voting District 17: Southend Senior Wellness Center, 830 Maple Avenue  
Voting District 18: Naylor School, 639 Franklin Avenue (Temporary location)

You must be a registered Democrat to vote in this election. If you are unsure where to vote or whether you are eligible to vote in this election, call the City of Hartford Registrar of Voters Office at (860) 757-9830 or go to the website: <http://www.hartford.gov/registrar-of-voters>.

### What Will Hartford Be Like on its 400th Anniversary? You Decide!

The City of Hartford, the iQuilt Partnership and other organizations are currently developing a plan for Hartford based on the theme of Hartford's 400th Anniversary, which will take place in 2025. The City of Hartford Plan 2035 has five major components: Green, Play, Live, Move and Grow.

In order to gather public input on the plan, public meetings on each theme will be held next month.

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| Green400 | Monday, March 2; 6:30-8:00 pm; EcoSpace, 224 Farmington Avenue, Hartford                        |
| Play400  | Monday, March 9; 6:15 - 8:00 pm; Parkville Market, 1400 Park Street, Hartford                   |
| Live400  | Tuesday, March 17; 5:30 - 7 pm; CREC Central, Rooms 101 & 102, 111 Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford |
| Move400  | Wednesday, March 18; 11:00 am - 12:30 pm; CRCOG, 241 Main Street, Hartford                      |
| Grow400  | Monday, March 23; 6:30 - 8:00 pm; ReSet, 1429 Park Street, Hartford                             |
|          | Monday, March 30; 6:00 - 8:00 pm; Saint Francis Hospital, Conference Room A, 95 Woodland Street |

### Rally Against Mandated Vaccines

Continued from page 1

orate with specifics of just how the mandate was "against their religion". When asked "Do you attend regular services in your faith?", most replied "This just violates everything I believe in." The passage of the bill does include a "grandfather clause", wherein State residents whose children have been previously covered by the exemption for religious reasons will retain the right to refuse the vaccines.

According to a 2015 article in The Downey Patriot, the CDC (Center for Disease Control) estimates that children vaccinated between 1994 and 2014 have

yielded net savings of \$1.38 trillion in "societal costs," including money saved by preventing lost productivity due to disability and early death. The United States saves about \$27 per \$1 invested in DTaP vaccination, and \$13 per \$1 spent on MMR vaccination. UNICEF estimates that \$6.2 billion could be saved in treatment costs if vaccines were more prominent in the world's poorest countries. More information is available at the website [vaccines.procon.org](http://vaccines.procon.org). It remains to be seen how the passage of this bill will play out in regard to enrollment in Connecticut's schools.

# DoNo Doings

## *The good, the bad, and the unknown*

COMMENTARY BY ANNE GOSHDIGIAN

A couple of Wednesdays ago when I arrived at the Hartford News offices to do the weekly copy editing before the paper gets sent off to the printer, my colleague and friend Mike McGarry came over to me and gleefully announced "Anne is going to hate what I wrote in my column this week!" "Mike", I replied, "You're probably going to hate what I wrote, too." This was not any sort of a serious argument, just two people who rarely agree on what's important to the city, but still respect each other. So when I read Mike's copy and saw that it was in praise of Hartford's Dunkin' Donuts stadium and the Yard Goats, I just smiled and thought "So what else is new, Mikey?" Red editing pen in hand, I skimmed over the words "hardcore complainers" (I guess he means me, folks!) and went on to read about what he describes as the "magic": fireworks, chatting with old friends, Irish Night, free tickets for kids, and the modest cost of parking. Hey! I don't have a problem with any of those things; it's all good. Mike goes on to give tips about how to make the most of a trip to the ball game. No argument here. No, it was at the end of his column where he asks if everything at DD is perfect. He admits that sometimes the lines for food and drink are too long, and if you arrive late you might have a long walk from a distant parking area. Mike, how about the nearly \$5 million inscribed in red ink in the city's ledgers every year—them's taxpayer dollars, friend—that will be our reality until about 2040, at which point

the stadium will be deemed obsolete and unusable and we'll have to either pony up another \$100 million plus to renovate it, or pay a hefty fee to have it demolished and removed? How about the fact that we made the city's worst deal of the century (so far) when we agreed that millionaire team

owner Josh Solomon would collect nearly all the revenue while he has no skin in the game? Oh, wait! The ancillary DoNo development is what's gonna put us in the black, right?

Which brings us to millionaire Randy Salvatore, who has the

**Continued on page 6**

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## The Future of Journalism Starts Here: Connecticut Health I-Team's Summer Multimedia Journalism Workshop



The Conn. Health I-Team is offering full tuition scholarships for Hartford students at our Summer Multimedia Journalism Workshop, July 6-10 at the University of Connecticut.

Students will learn from working journalists, hone their communication skills, spend a week on the UConn campus, and much more!

*For information or to sign up, go to [c-hit.org](http://c-hit.org).*



# News & Views



HARTFORD HAS IT



ASYLUM HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION  
From the  
**Executive Director**  
BY DAVID MACDONALD

We invite all our partners, stakeholders and residents to attend the next General Meeting on March 2nd. The meeting agenda will be a little different than usual, since AHNA is hosting the first public input session for the city's new Plan of Conservation and Development, known as Hartford 2035. The public hearing will start at 6:30pm, leaving time only for some quick updates at our General Meeting, which will start earlier than usual at 6pm.

The city will present the plan at 6 different public hearings to gather input and ideas from residents. Each hearing will focus on one of the plan's sections. The first section "Green 400" will be presented on Monday March 2nd at the 224 EcoSpace starting at 6:30pm. Green 400 is summarized as such: Hartford has undertaken significant efforts to be one of the greenest cities in New England. In 2018, we adopted an award-winning Climate Action Plan, and we have heard loud and clear that there's more to do. In this next City Plan, we should continue our push to become a national leader in cleaning up our environment. We must ensure that more people connect environmental stewardship with improving public health, advancing the economy, and promoting social equity.

We can't reverse the last 400 years of environmental degradation. But how can we best achieve a more sustainable future for Hartford? Please submit your ideas involving any of these areas: energy, green infrastructure, rivers, trees, and waste management. Ideas can be submitted on the plan's website at [hartford2035.org](http://hartford2035.org).

Other sections will be presented as follows;

Green400	Monday, March 2; 6:30-8:00 pm; EcoSpace, 224 Farmington Avenue, Hartford
Play400	Monday, March 9; 6:15 - 8:00 pm; Parkville Market, 1400 Park Street, Hartford
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Move400	Wednesday, March 18; 11:00 am - 12:30 pm CRCOG, 241 Main Street, Hartford
Grow400	Monday, March 23; 6:30 - 8:00 pm; ReSet, 1429 Park St. Monday, March 30; 6:00 - 8:00 pm; Saint Francis Hospital, Conference Room A, 95 Woodland Street

These hearings will be the opportunity for residents to provide input and feedback to the city regarding the Hartford Plan 2035. The time for resident input is now, not after the plans have been written, so we encourage all residents to participate.

Anyone who's been to Asylum Hill Congregational Church, no matter where in the building they go, can see evidence of their support for the arts, both material and performance. They have a long history of commissioning and displaying material art as well as performances, often created by Asylum Hill and Hartford residents that have been featured in the News & Views.

What may not be so well known though is their annual Arts & Spirituality Retreat, this year titled "Freeing the Artist Within" A maximum of 50 individuals sign up for the weekend to explore a wide variety of artistic expression, all intended to "awaken the creative Spirit"

It began Friday evening with a musical performance by Kate Callahan and Friends featuring Cynthia Wolcott and Michelle Begley. Kate is a well-known local singer/songwriter and guitarist recently appointed Connecticut State Troubadour. It was a fitting beginning to a weekend focused on art that feeds the soul.

This was followed by a dinner catered by Linda Wayman Cooks!, the Arts & Spirituality Retreat Kitchen Team, and Hands on

Hartford Caterers Who Care. It was a delicious example of Culinary art well practiced.

From there, the participants began the creative process with an hour of making masks with cardboard, scissors and pastels.

Saturday morning began with coffee, as it should, before moving into Gentle Chair Yoga that was led by Cynthia Wolcott. It was exactly as the name suggests as it was gentle, true yoga, while seated in chairs.

From there the Art Experiences began. Everyone selected their first and second choices for three of the ten available opportunities. Anywhere from three to five opportunities were available at each of three sessions, and a balanced group was assigned to each. They ran the gamut from food that included making apple pie jam or classic marinara, lemon garlic and caper sauces as well as a creamy cheese sauce to a poetry class. While one group was learning about the pipe organ – including a video of its history, a small wooden model that they collectively assembled and a trip into the choir loft to get up close to the church's Aeolian-Skinner organ, another was mak-

ing small objects from different materials. Either layers of paper, cut into shapes and mounted in small boxes creating a sort of 3-D scene; or pieces of quilting cloth cut into shapes and glued on a background creating colorful framed art.

Hexagon shaped pieces of multi-colored paper were also arranged and glued to card stock to make a variety of display pieces.

Other opportunities included exploring dyeing techniques using natural sources like tree bark and nut husks, purple cabbage or onion-skins. The palette of colors, either singly or combined were amazing. There was even an exploration of Verdi's Rigoletto that included viewing select scenes from a DVD that featured Luciano Pavarotti.

The afternoon ended with everyone sitting in a circle, several sharing thoughts and impressions of the group experience, many there for the first time. A final group exercise and a prayer of thanksgiving concluded the 12th annual Arts & Spirituality Retreat.

For photos, go to <https://photos.app.goo.gl/6NZvp9oGhCEgWviF8>

## Volunteer of the Month: E-Talks at Grace

This is one of those stories that could fit into several different columns, but it feels like it fits best here. Louisa Barton Duguay is one of those people who's always on the lookout for ways to make things better in the neighborhood, usually by making connections between people with a need for opportunities, and opportunities looking for people. One of the habits she's developed to stay engaged is to watch TED talks on her laptop. She also

noticed that while many of the people she runs into in the neighborhood are reasonably thoughtful, they often just end up talking about one another. By last October, she devised a plan to help them talk about something a little more challenging, like TED talks.

Get 10 to 15 people into a room, have them watch a 15 minute talk and then discuss it. Better yet, get one of them each week to choose the talks and lead the discussion.

But just to make sure it got off the ground, she decided that a \$50.00 stipend might motivate volunteers to choose the talk and lead the discussion, and a book of 5 bus passes for attending 5 of these "E-Talks" might bring in the curious discussion group.

She pitched the idea to Urban Alliance in East Hartford, and while they didn't have a category for this sort of thing, they liked it enough to fund a trial run.

So Wednesday February 19th was the 6th Wednesday afternoon in a row that people have shown up for the event, each time with a few more than the week before. Sue Carey has been her partner in this endeavor, and between them they hosted the first few. Since then, the example and the stipend have been enough to keep it going. The next four weeks are already planned.

Some of the interesting TED Talks that were viewed and discussed included: "Jia Jiang: What I learned from 100 days of rejection" and "Maysoun Zayid: I got 99 problems ... palsy is just one." Most recently Suzie Jenkins chose the two talks that were viewed, and led the discussion.

As someone who is naturally quite shy and avoids the spotlight, putting herself in the front of the room was a challenge. So in the end, when she was met with enthusiastic applause, it all proved worthwhile.

TED Talks are available at <https://www.ted.com/talks>

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## EXPLORING ASYLUM HILL

# A Fresh Start Update

The last time we checked in with Fresh Start Pallet Products, they had just moved into their new home at Veeder Place and were getting settled in. A lot has gone on since then so you deserve to know at least a few of the highlights.

The move to a real manufacturing facility has allowed them to build out a professional woodworking shop. Efficiency and safety are two of the benefits, as well as increases in quality, variety and quantity of products made and sold.

At the same time, the Board of Directors has been growing and maturing. People with a lot of different backgrounds and experiences have contributed to success on many different fronts. One of those led to the TV feature on WFSB's "Better Connecticut", now on the landing page of the website at [www.freshstartpallet-products.org](http://www.freshstartpallet-products.org).

The best way to see the spectrum of the core products, those produced and stocked for sale, would be again at the website, under shop. There you will see a dozen different products each with a number of variations available, including color, finish and more.

While these products were the whole business in the beginning, they constitute only a third of Fresh Start's work today. They exist under the heading of Core Products and share shop time with



### Contract & Custom Products.

This first began when The Salvation Army wanted to open a new store in Dayville CT. They turned to Fresh Start to produce much of the stores fixtures and design elements.

Word spreads and most recently, Cape Cod Fence Co. has contracted with Fresh Start to produce their mailbox posts. These are a big seller especially in the winter, and fit in nicely when demand for outdoor furniture slows.

The third part of Fresh Starts work now consists of Custom Products, pieces made to order to a customer's specifications. While in the beginning there were always a few of these, especially benches with custom painting, now there are commercial customers with a

regular need for products that our trained and increasingly experienced workers can produce. The newest of these is working for our fellow Veeder Place Company NINA.

Fresh Start will be producing custom Victorian era architectural trim work for the homes NINA is building and remodeling in the neighborhood.

This is also the 4th year Fresh Start will be appearing at the Flower and Garden Show at the Connecticut Convention Center. Each year has been more successful and this year features a place very near the entrance. People who bought something in previous years are commenting on the amazing progress of the quality and variety of products, and everyone is encouraging of the mission. It really is inspiring to see what people outside the mainstream are capable of producing when given a chance. Since the Garden Show will be over when you read this, don't despair, Fresh Start will also be at the CT Home & Remodeling Show from 2/28 - 3/1 at the CT Convention Center.

For more about that show, go to <https://www.cthomeshow.com>

Photos from the Flower & Garden Show can be seen at: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/bFdQFsvdZkR7H1a7>



ASYLUM HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

## From the House

BY MATTHEW RITTER

### Trump Cuts Impact Hartford

The chaotic state of affairs in Washington D.C. can often feel distant from the day-to-day realities in Hartford. But decisions at the federal level can have a direct impact on vital services and programs for residents across our state. Two easy examples are the Census and the federal budget. We know that our share of federal funds is tied to the Census (everyone must be counted!) and the federal budget impacts programs that many of our friends and neighbors depend upon.

Earlier this month the Trump administration announced its \$4.8 trillion FY 2021 budget proposal, which has unfortunately put states like Connecticut in the cross hairs.

If enacted, the White House's budget would:

- Cut the Weatherization Assistance Program which assists thousands of local households a year with home energy bills.
- Eliminate the Community Services Block Grant, which supports a wide range of agency programs that help Hartford residents like the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, which helps residents who make under \$50,000 a year prepare their taxes.
- Reduce the budget of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) even after detrimental cuts were enacted last April. These SNAP cuts will directly impact access to meals for vulnerable children, families, seniors and individuals with disabilities across our state.
- Slice the annual production of submarines in the Pentagon budget - hurting subcontractors and suppliers across the state.

We are fortunate to have a congressional delegation that has unanimously condemned this budget out of the White House and are actively fighting to ensure it does not become a reality. Here at the local level, I will continue to advocate for the rights of residents here in Hartford and across our state.

Please contact me at [Matthew.Ritter@cga.ct.gov](mailto:Matthew.Ritter@cga.ct.gov), or by phone at (800) 842-1902, if you have any questions or concerns.

## Asylum Hill Now & Then



This photo, from a glass plate negative from the Hartford City Parks Collection at the Hartford History Center at the Hartford Public Library, is dated about 1920. On the right we see another view of last month's Farmington Hotel, and this month, across the street at 50 Farmington Ave is the 5 story Normandy Apartments. The 1920 map shows that at this time, Broad St ended at Farmington Ave, Cogswell St. did not exist and both The School for the Deaf and the First Universalist Society were on the north side of Asylum Ave. The City Directory of the same year shows 13 apartment dwellers at the Normandy. The photo below shows that nothing remains from 100 years ago today.



Family Health  
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## NEW SATURDAY HOURS, 9 am–1 pm

Offering treatment for cold and flu symptoms, aches and pains, minor cuts and bruises, and behavioral health and addiction services.



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Services in English & Spanish.

A sliding fee scale is available based on family size and income. No patient will be denied health care services due to an individual's inability to pay. Funding is provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Improvements to the Family Health & Wellness Center are supported in part by the State of Connecticut Nonprofit Grant Program, the Connecticut Health & Educational Facilities Authority, the Maximilian E. and Marion O. Hoffman Foundation, and the Ensworth Charitable Foundation. Additional support is provided by Delta Dental of New Jersey Foundation. Wheeler is a Health Center program grantee under 42 U.S.C. 254b and a deemed Public Health Service employee under 42 U.S.C. 233 (g)(n).



# City of Hartford RECREATION DIVISION Rec Center Activities



Program	Time/Day	Location
Slime and other gross crafts	Fridays 4:30 pm	Arroyo
Chess without Stress	Wed/Thurs 6 pm	Parker
HPD Pre Cadet PT	Mon/Wed/Thurs 6 pm	Parker
Domino Duels	Wed/Fri 5-7 pm	Parker
Adult Lap Swim & Lessons	Mon/Wed/Fri 6 pm	Arroyo/Parker
Basketball Girls Middle	Thurs 6:30 pm	Arroyo
Basketball Boys Middle	Thurs 6:30 pm	Parker
SPA-rryo	Mondays 4:30 pm	Arroyo
CICD Meetings and Practice	Wednesday 5:30 pm	Arroyo
Family Free Swim	Saturdays 1:30-3 pm	Parker
Family Free Swim	Saturdays 12:30-12:45 pm	Arroyo
Family Free Swim	Saturdays 3:30-4:00 pm	Arroyo
Youth Swimming Lesson	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs 4 - 4:45 pm	Arroyo/Parker
Kayak Self Rescue Training	Saturday 1-3:30 pm	Arroyo

For more information call - 860-757-0530

## In My Opinion

### Continued from page 2

wants to work with him, he got nothing done." She then said that Sanders did nothing to unite the Democrats after he lost the 2016 primary. Barack Obama is reportedly ready to denounce Sanders, if he appears to have the nomination sewn up.

Hood Communist blogger Ready for a Revolution dismantled the mythology around Sanders. "Similar to what occurred with FDR and the New Deal coalition during the 1930s, the likes of Bernie Sanders, Ilhan Omar, and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez are attempting to inaugurate a renewed movement of 'progressive' Democrats. While this is championed by many as something worthy of celebration—as

'progress,' what we are seeing in real-time is the liberalization and hollowing out of terms like 'abolition,' 'resistance,' and 'revolution,' amongst others. What this amounts to is a deliberate means of (mis)appropriating and ultimately watering down radical language and movements. Sanders et al., have mastered this sleight of hand in a way not seen in decades. Lamentably, this has successfully fooled many Americans into thinking he, and others, are in fact, radicals and/or socialists.

"Progressive" politicians wield words, slogans, and even ideologies, widely associated with the radical tradition—especially the Black radical tradition, when in actuality all they want is what has already been achieved by most wealthy 'developed' countries; a

gentleman's reformation of the inherently oppressive institutions that they claim to be against. Given that, exactly how radical can what they are proposing be? Even the new wing of Democratic Party progressives' advocacy of the Green New Deal legislation that aims to 'address climate change' was stolen from the Green Party and stripped of its anti-imperialist and anti-militarization elements." Read the full column: "The Miseducation of the US Left: Bernie Sanders, Social Democracy, and Left Chauvinism."

Howie is the only presidential candidate who has a campaign platform based on race-conscious policies. Visit his website. <https://howiehawkins.us/>



### 2 and 3-BR Apartments for Rent

## NORTHEND GATEWAY

### Great Hartford apartments near Downtown

Come see NorthEnd Gateway at 1450 Main Street. Come view our units with ultra modern energy-efficient appliances, including microwave, oven, dishwasher, refrigerator and washer/dryer included in each apartment. Central AC in each unit. Handicapped units available. Ample on-site parking. INCOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY.

Call 860-547-1111 or visit us online at [www.carabetta.com](http://www.carabetta.com)



## News Briefs

### Continued from page 1

ness Association (HEZBA) will hold its annual Luncheon and Awards Presentation on Friday, February 28, from 12 - 2 pm at Uptown Vibz, 3155 Main Street, Hartford. To reserve your ticket, call 860-897-5171. This event is sponsored by HEZBA and the *Inquiring News*.

### Black Business Gala February 29

Hartford Small Business Night Out (HSBNO) will host its 7th Annual Black Business Gala on Saturday, February 29, from 7 pm to 12 midnight at Marquee Events, 960 Main Street, Downtown Hartford. Honorees include Alisha Bowens Mercado, Bilal Apolabi, DeVaughn Ward, Gerald Grate, Kim Hawkins, Norman Oates and Chefs Stella & Mazie. For tickets and more information, go to: <http://www.small-businessnightout.com/events.html>

as pastries. Admission is free, the public is welcome. Saint Casimir was a Lithuanian prince known for his devotion to God and his generosity to the sick and the poor. He died in 1484 at the young age of 25. He was buried in the Cathedral of Vilnius, Lithuania and officially made a saint in 1602. The fair is organized by the Lithuanian-American Girls and Boys Scouts. Proceeds will go to the scouts and the Holy Trinity Parish.

## READ US ONLINE!

The Hartford News is now available online! Go to [HartfordPublications.com](http://HartfordPublications.com) and click on current edition – or find us on Facebook under "Hartford News-Southside Media." New editions are posted Wednesday evening.

### Know Thy Neighbor Clay Arsenal Meets March 3

Know Thy Neighbor Clay Arsenal will meet Tuesday, March 3, at 6:00pm at the Management and Community Room at Mary Shepard Place, 15 Pavilion Street. Know Thy Neighbor brings together neighborhood residents, police officers, fire fighters, and AMR staff from Clay Arsenal and vicinity to talk about community concerns and work together to take action. For more info: [ktnclayarsenal@gmail.com](mailto:ktnclayarsenal@gmail.com) or 860-201-6510. Refreshments will be available at 5:45pm. Free parking in the lot outside the building.

### Democratic National Delegate Workshop March 5

The Connecticut Democratic Party will hold a Democratic National Committee (DNC) Delegate Workshop on Thursday, March 5, from 5:30 PM – 7 pm at Connecticut Democratic Party Headquarters, 30 Arbor Street, Suite 106A, Hartford. The purpose of the meeting is to walk interested Democrats through the process of becoming a 2020 DNC delegate to this summer's Democratic Convention in Milwaukee. Please RSVP to <https://ctdems.org/events>.

## DoNO Doings

### Continued from page 2

rights to develop those DoNo parcels. He just announced that Parcel C, which is scheduled for groundbreaking, this spring, and will be the site of 270 (up from the original 245) market-rate apartments, is going to be very attractive to millennials, as well as those seeking co-working spaces. Because –warning, sarcasm ahead—we surely have been neglecting the millennial market here in Hartford, right? I'm grateful that CRDA honcho Mike Freimuth, who along with his board (our mayor's a member) bestows millions of dollars in state loans to uber-rich developers, actually had the fortitude to publicly recognize that Hartford's millennial love-fest has not resulted in those transient residents making a long-term commit-

ment to life in the capital city. I knew that! No, he's absolutely right. They rarely stay more than 2-3 years and then move along. He understands the need for investing in home ownership and making a commitment to raising families here. But that won't ever happen until we have a well-functioning, desirable public school system in place.

And meanwhile, North End residents and business owners: How do you feel about this DoNo development, which has been promoted for six years now as a wonderful economic, cultural, and safe asset for an area of the city that's suffered from neglect? Do you see this happening yet? Do you think these apartments will be the key that makes the difference?

We want to know.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

## CLASSIFIED ADS

The Hartford News  
563 Franklin Ave.,  
Hartford, CT  
Phone: 296-6128

COSTS

First Week: \$15  
\$10 for each  
following week

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Schedule now!

## Part-Time Workers

Handyman and part-time workers wanted.  
Call 860-803-7260.

**Love All Home Services, LLC**

You can get paid caring for your aging parents and family. Clients must be 65 receiving benefits under 19. Can get paid up to \$1,200 to \$1,900 per month. Also, looking for retired part-time RN and part-time bookeeper Call 860-956-8174, 235 Campfield Avenue.

Puedes ser pagado por cuidar de su familiar. Los clientes deben de tener 65 o mas años y poseer medicaid. Contactenos para coonocer y entender los detalles del programa, y ganar desde \$ 1,200 a \$1,900 mensual. Tambien buscando RN retirado a tiempo parcial. 860-956-8174. 299 Franklin Ave.

**Employment**

Sewers wanted. Hand or machine, experience needed. Call 860-803-7260.

## TO SELL / TO BUY

**Dealer Auction Cars**

I'll take you to a dealer-only auction, you pick out the car you like, I'll buy it and sell it to you with a modest mark-up. These are great cars starting at \$1,000! Auctions every week. Call Sal 860-713-8348.

**AVON IS CALLING...**

For a brochure with thousands of quality products, call Robert at 860-308-5455. We also have hair relaxers and coloring kits for just \$5.00/box.

**Storage Contents**

Complete storage contents for sale, asking \$600 takes everything. Call 860-560-6762.

**Cash for Cars & Trucks**

We buy junk cars and trucks. We sell and install used parts. Full body work. Used cars and trucks for sale. Corona's Auto Parts. 608 Wethersfield Ave., Hartford. 860-296-2528.

## SERVICES

**Airey Insurance Group**  
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Auto • Home • Life • Renters • Motorcycle • Boat • Health • Disability • Commercial. Free instant quotes. 1141 New Britain Avenue, West Hartford 06110.

**Free Medicare Check Up**

For open enrollment. Better plans available for 2020. Call Derrick Shirley. 860-371-8969.

**Light Hauling**

Man with truck to haul heavy/bulky items for very reasonable rates. Robert, 860-900-8510 or 860-308-5455.

**Dump Runs**

Electronics, major appliances, mattresses, box springs, furnaces and hot water heaters removed. All other items welcome. Call Bill Jones at 860-286-0081.

**RENTERS**

**Stop Paying Your Landlord's Mortgage!**  
**Free Report Reveals How Easy it is to Buy Your Own Home! Programs Available.**

**Call 860-796-6640**

Remax Real Estate

**FUNERALS aren't cheap - but planning for one is. FREE funeral planning guide.**  
**Call Derrick Shirley, 860-371-8969.**

**Free free free free**

Wrecked, Junk or Unwanted Vehicle Removal. Fully licensed. Serving Greater Hartford. For prompt, courteous service, call 860-293-2442. Monday-Friday, 8am - 4pm.

**Thinking of Getting Married?**

Experienced Justice of the Peace available on weekends. Nice settings can be arranged. Modest fee. Call Mike at 860-296-6128.

**LG Pest Control**

Certified pest controller specializing in bed bugs, roaches, rodents, ants, fleas, raccoons & squirrels. Funigador de cucarachas, de ratones y chinches. Call for appointment 860-597-0942.

**Certified CHHA Worker Seeks Private Home Care Position**

Passionate care specialist with great quality standards. Very trustworthy and professional. 18 years experience. Excellent references. Call Rosemarie Yee, 347-856-0176.

## REAL ESTATE

**Apartment for Rent**

1, 2 & 3 bedroom apartments on Arnold Street and Deerfield Avenue. Appliances included cold flat. Section 8 welcome. Affordable rents. Call 860-752-9060.

**For Rent**

Spacious 3 Bedroom apartments on the 2nd floor, West End. Cold Flat. 1 month security and 1 month rent. Available NOW. Section 8 welcome. Call 860-888-6655.

**Apartments for Rent**

Efficiency, 1, 2, 3 and 4 bedrooms available. Walking distance to shopping, on bus line, off-street parking. Small pets welcome. Section 8 Welcome. Rates Starting at: Studio- \$615; 1BR- \$700; 2BR- \$800; 3BR- \$900; 4BR-\$1000. Call 860-549-3000.

**295-297 Garden Street Hartford**

Large well maintained 3 bedroom apartments, 1st & 2nd floor, quiet building. Cold flat \$900 monthly. 1 month security 1 month rent. Section 8 Welcome. Call 860-882-3650.

**For Rent**

3 bedrooms on 2nd floor. Newly renovated. Appliances included. W/D hook-up. Off-street parking. Section 8 welcome. Cold flat. Call 860-899-7545.

**For Rent Hartford**

Spacious 3 Bedroom 2nd floor cold flat. Newly remodeled. Washer hook-up, off street parking. Call 860-839-8801.

**Room for Rent**

Furnished room with utilities and kitchen privileges. \$130 weekly. 860 560-8200.

**Church Space for Rent**

Existing church building, highly visible and on the bus line. The space provides a sanctuary, pastor's office, administrative office, plenty of classroom/ministry space, multiple bathrooms and off-street parking. This is an excellent space for a growing congregation. For more details call: Bill, 860-608-6998.

**Apartments for Rent**

Large studio & 1-BR. All include heat and hot water, parking, stove & fridge, washer & dryer in basement. Section 8 welcome. No pets, plenty of closet space. Call Imer at 917-681-5785 or Pablo at 860-983-9444.

**For Rent**

3 bedrooms, eat-in kitchen, living room. Appliances included, washer/dryer hook-up. Cold flat. Section 8 welcome. Off-street parking. Call 860-209-1737.

**TKB BINGO**

**1 Vernon Ave, Rockville, behind Rockville Hospital.**

**Early Bird Starts at 12:15 pm**  
**Regular Bingo Starts at 1 pm**

**Call Debbie at**  
**860-490-1009 or**  
**Tray at 860-803-9368.**

**Room For Rent**

Rooms for rent in Hartford's West End. Utilities included. \$140 weekly. Security deposit. Call 860-888-6655.

**2-BR Apt. for Rent**

For Rent: 2 bedroom unit, 2nd floor, completely renovated with granite countertop and island, new stove, new frig, new beautiful bathroom new wood floors throughout parking for 1 car, quiet street, 6 Putnam Hts, on busline and close to shopping. Section 8 welcome. Available A.S.A.P. \$1000.00. Please call 646-286-6442.

**YOUR AD COULD BE HERE!**  
**HARTFORD NEWS**  
**CLASSIFIEDS... THE BEST**  
**DEAL IN TOWN!**  
**CALL 860-296-6128**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**ESTATE OF**  
**Shawn Aldridge**  
**(20-00029)**

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated February 6, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Carmen Y. Zayas,  
Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:  
Lloyd Aldridge  
C/O Steven M Zelman  
Murphy, Laudati, Kiel & Rattigan, LLC  
10 Talcott Notch Road, Suite 210  
Farmington, CT 06032

Ethlyn Aldridge  
FKA Ethlyn Wilmot  
c/o Steven M Zelman  
Murphy, Laudati, Kiel & Rattigan, LLC,  
10 Talcott Notch Road, Suite 210  
Farmington, CT 06032

**REGIÓN DEL CAPITOLIO**

Todos los avisos de licitación para el Consejo de Compras de la Región del Capitolio están disponibles en <https://crcog.bonfirehub.com/>. CRCOG también está solicitando propuestas para un estudio de impacto económico y servicios para Crumbling Foundations. Si tiene alguna pregunta, comuníquese con la oficina del CRPC 860-724-4292 o envíe un correo electrónico a [cpcstaff@crcog.org](mailto:cpcstaff@crcog.org). Las ciudades se reservan el derecho de rechazar cualquiera o todas las ofertas, o cualquier parte de cualquiera o todas las ofertas, si se considera que dicha acción es en el mejor interés de las ciudades.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**ESTATE OF**  
**Deborah D. Lewis**  
**(19-01287)**

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated February 3, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Francesca Knerr, Esq.  
Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:  
Tawanda Johnson  
4423 Thurgood Estates Drive  
Ellenwood, GA 30294

Gregory Lewis  
279 Faithful Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06114

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**ESTATE OF**  
**Reeves W. Westmoreland**  
**(20-00064)**

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated February 12, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Carmen Y. Zayas,  
Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:  
Jane W. Blakeslee, AKA Jane I. Blakeslee  
c/o Matthew J. Lefevre  
Law Offices of Matthew Lefevre, Esq., PC  
38 Woodland Street  
Hartford, CT 06105

**CAPITAL REGION**

All bid notices for the Capitol Region Purchasing Council are available at <https://crcog.bonfirehub.com/>. CRCOG is also requesting proposals for an economic impact study and services for Crumbling Foundations. If you have any questions, please contact the office of the CRPC 860-724-4292, or e-mail [cpcstaff@crcog.org](mailto:cpcstaff@crcog.org). The towns reserve the right to reject any or all bids, or any part of any or all bids, if such action is deemed to be in the best interest of the towns.

**PART-TIME POSITION**  
**Community Program Coordinator**

Hartford Next, the coalition of Hartford's NRZs, is seeking a highly motivated and collaborative program coordinator & administrator to support its workforce development and community training initiatives.

The position calls for performing operational and administrative tasks including participant recruitment and registration, training delivery coordination, information and data entry, and development of key relationships with local businesses, service providers and government agencies. Details at [www.hartfordnext.org](http://www.hartfordnext.org).

Send resume and letter of interest to: [hnxxt@hartfordnext.org](mailto:hnxxt@hartfordnext.org).

# El Informativo Latino

## Obtenga la estrella de oro para su ID o licencia

Una estrella de oro en su licencia o tarjeta de IDENTIFICACIÓN que indica que ya se han verificado en ID. Un proceso de verificación es un momento de verificación, por lo tanto, si usted tiene la estrella de oro que usted es todo puesto y cumplir con las normas federales. En octubre de 2011, el DMV de Connecticut comenzó a ofrecer esta verificación de la identidad de verificación para los clientes que renuevan su licencia de conducir o tarjeta de IDENTIFICACIÓN y para los nuevos, los solicitantes por primera vez. Por lo tanto, muchos de los residentes de Connecticut ya tiene un ID REAL compatible con licencia o tarjeta de IDENTIFICACIÓN.

También Puede Utilizar El Pasaporte!

Si usted ya tiene una Connecticut

licencia o tarjeta de Identificación, obtención de su identidad verificada a través de la DMV es opcional. La TSA también acepta otros documentos de identidad en el aeropuerto, tales como un Pasaporte. Para obtener más información, visite el sitio Web de la TSA [tsa.gov/travel](http://tsa.gov/travel).

Los clientes que soliciten una

licencia o tarjeta de identidad por primera vez en Connecticut (por ejemplo, los nuevos conductores o personas que se desplazan aquí) están obligados a solicitar un ID Real (si califican) en un servicio completo a la oficina del DMV. By: Iris Rodriguez



Hartford News y La Diferente Radio saluda a nuestra gente de la Repubilca Dominicana celebrando su independencia, 27 de febrero de 2020.

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Living Room Sets  
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Table & Chair Sets  
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Sofas, & More!

### PLUS!

Purses, Jewelry, Shoes & More

## Beam Me Up

### Continued from page 2

honest, moral, righteous and compassionate, humane and decent, contemplative and wise. Intelligent goes without saying. Reading is fundamental! Let's emerge from this dream state, this wicked spell we've succumbed to. Maybe we can begin by releasing children from cages, (or have we all forgotten), and keeping the white-collar criminals behind bars where they belong for as long as justified. Maybe a different flavored Kool-Aid will remind us that this is a democracy, not a dictatorship. Maybe, just maybe, I'll open my eyes and stretch and smile in my

sun-bathed bedroom, (There's no place like home!), and realize that of course I'd had a nightmare, must have been something I ate. The television, I muse... I fell asleep with the TV on and it somehow merged with my dreams, and then, fully awake I hear, "In an audacious league of his own, President Donald Trump celebrated the elimination of a tax that still exists and went deep and wide in distorting what he's done in office. I gasp and cover my mouth with my two sweaty palms to fight back an ear-splitting scream. Frantically I strike my chest in search of my communicator. Scottie????

## Become a Certified Fishing Instructor

Do you love to fish? Would you like to teach others the "Ancient and Enjoyable Art of Angling?" On Saturday, February 29, the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) will offer a class to qualify community members as certified Connecticut Aquatic Resource Education (CARE) instructors from 10 am - 3 pm at Keney Park Pond House, 323 Edgewood Street, Hartford. For more information, contact Tom Bourret at 860-663-1656; Justin Wiggins at 860-663-1656; or Doris Johnson at 860-424-3053.

## Mike McGarry

### Continued from page 2

primary against Ken Green, was decided by one vote.

New, positive potential may come from the efforts by this state representative, such as a state/regional solution to the Batterson Park mess; a possible agreement on the statewide use and support of Riverfront

Recapture; a change in absentee ballot access (the current law is certainly out of date); and continued state investment in Hartford (tax issues, minority teacher recruitment, the XL Center, etc).

Ritter closed his talk by asking those assembled to contact his office or him any time and that their concerns will be taken seriously.

## PROGRESSIVE DEMOCRATS VOTE THE TOP ROW FOR THE NEIGHBORS YOU KNOW!

TOP ROW-B!  
DEMOCRATS  
FOR THE  
6TH

ROW  
B!

MARCH  
3RD!

Call us if  
you need  
transportation!  
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transportación  
llame al  
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**On March 3rd, let your vote be your voice!  
Row B is dedicated to our community and  
committed to working with you!**

**¡El 3 de marzo deja que tu voto sea tu voz!  
La fila B está dedicada a nuestra comunidad y  
se compromete a trabajar con usted.**